

From: Andrew Kuan
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 3:36pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I do not agree with the proposed settlement in the Microsoft antitrust case. The original proposal from Judge Jackson to split Microsoft into two separate companies, one of which creates application software and the other of which creates operating system software makes much more sense. The root of the problem with Microsoft's monopoly is that they have a conflict of interest: Microsoft provides the operating system for which both they and their competitors develop applications. While the existence of monopoly conditions in the operating system market is not inherently bad, Microsoft unfortunately abuses its monopoly in order to force competitors in the application software market out of business. This is anti-competitive, anti-innovation, and counter to the interests of American consumers.

Again, I am very much against the current terms of the proposed settlement as they do little to prevent Microsoft from abusing their monopoly power and engaging in anti-competitive practices again. The call to split Microsoft in two should be reconsidered.

Sincerely,

Andrew Kuan